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are frankly confessed, perhaps; but this particular one is a shame and disgrace. Besides, the sinner is not quite ready yet to give up. He is like the man who pleaded: "Lord, make me pure—but not yet." Or, he would like to be freed from the misery caused by the secret sin, but is not brave enough to face the consequences of confession.

JANUARY 2, 1919

It may be a sin against man, as well as against God; and it is easier to confess to God—who knows all about the sin already—than to endure the humiliation of confessing the mater to the men who have a right to know.

It is so easy to make excuses for oneself, to refuse to look honestly at the ugly, festering spot.

Perhaps a man has told a lie which is injuring someone else. He really hates lying, and has a reputation as a very truthful person to maintain; so he makes his truthfulness an excuse for refusing his truthfulness an excuse for refusing to right the wrong. The matter can't be set right without lowering him in the respect of his neighbors. So he builds a fence in front of the ugly lie, and does his very best to forget it himself. Yet it is not cured. It is a festering sore, which makes his soul weak. He dares not kneel at the feet of Christ and say: "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" for he knows that if the order should be given to right the wrong—as far as he is given to right the wrong—as far as he is able—he isnot prepared to obey that order. The sin he hates is standing between him and his Saviour. He can't find rest and healing for his soul unless the sin is uncovered before God, and— if that is necessary—confessed humbly to men.

The publican in the Temple was justi-The publican in the reinpie was justified because he frankly confessed his sin.
The penitent thief owned that he justly deserved the dreadful punishment of crucifixion. These men offered no excuses but they did not—like some open sinners defeately and characters in a characters and characters in a characters. but they did not—like some open sinners—defiantly and shamelessly acknowledge their sins. They did not say—like some modern publicans—"I am not a canting hypocrite like those self-righteous church-people," and so refuse the help of the Good Physician. It is mockery to acknowledge our sins without intending to fight against them.

"The sinner, who was ashamed to lift his eyes to heaven, lifted his heart, there, and the Lord drew near the humble one. Too many lives are wrecked or sadly weakened by old sins which have never been honestly opened up to the Good

Physician. Those who treat an earthly physician so insincerely can hardly gain much help from his skill. When a cancer is destroying the body it is not hidden from one who may be able to cure it. Do we care less about diseases of the priceless soul? The body will be worn out in a few years, anyway, but the soul will go on living. Can we endure to be diseased in soul, and make excuses to hide our condition from Him who still has power on earth to forgive sins?

Outward respectability may be a sham in His eyes, like whitewashed sepulchres full of all uncleanness. No fence of excuses can deceive the Divine Lover. He will tear it down so that the shamed soul may come to Him and be healed. Even if the new beginning is made only at the last hour of this life —as in the case of the dying thief—it is a real beginning, not an ending.

"This world is not conclusion:
A sequel lies beyond."
DORA FARNCOMB.

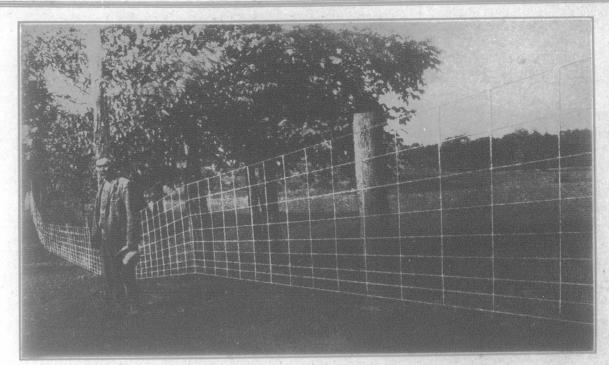
The Windrow.

Count Hohenzollern, the ex-Kaiser, is said to be writing his biography and a history of his reign.

8 0 8 In Bombay City, India, the recent Flu ravage claimed 15,000 victims out of a population of 1,000,000. In many places in India the death rate was twice

In Canada during the War 360 ships were built. Of these 22 were built through the Imperial Munitions Board for the British Government.

. 1,400,000 French soldiers were killed during the War, and 2,000,000 Germans. Of the Russians 1,700,000 were killed, 1,450,000 desabled, and 2,500,000 were taken prisoners. Of the Italians 500,000 lost their lives because of the fighting, besides 300,000 who died of disease.



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that a fence which is adapted to hills and difficult places, is also the best on the level.

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The Ingle Nook

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The Flu Up to Date.

EAR Ingle Nook Friends.—I trust you will forgive me for coming back again to this subject. I do so only because I have heard of the breaking out of the disease again in so many places, and of so many people taking it a second time; also because a great many doctors are of the opinion that it may renew itself in the spring with redoubled force. The theory is this: Cold weather it appears, invariably acts as a check on it, the unusual mildness of the winter up to the time of writing (Dec. the reason for its widespread ravages so far since real winter weather should have set in. Between this and spring there is likely to be cold weather, but whether there is or not, the greater mildness and dampness that are to be expected as March gives way to April will likely act as a rejuvenator to the Flu. Enough cases are likely to hang over to set it going then. Moreover, soldiers and others will be constantly returning from Europe, the hot-bed in which the disease was generated, and where it still stalks with ghastly tread. Indeed, the belief gains to-day that the "Flu" is none other than the old-fashioned "plague" that has always followed upon the heels of war, arising from the corruption of battle-fields. Recently I heard a doctor say, "Never before in the world was there so great a mass of bodies of men and horses buried in the same space and insufficiently at that—as now lie in the fields J. F. STONE, Kent Co., Highgate, Ontario

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